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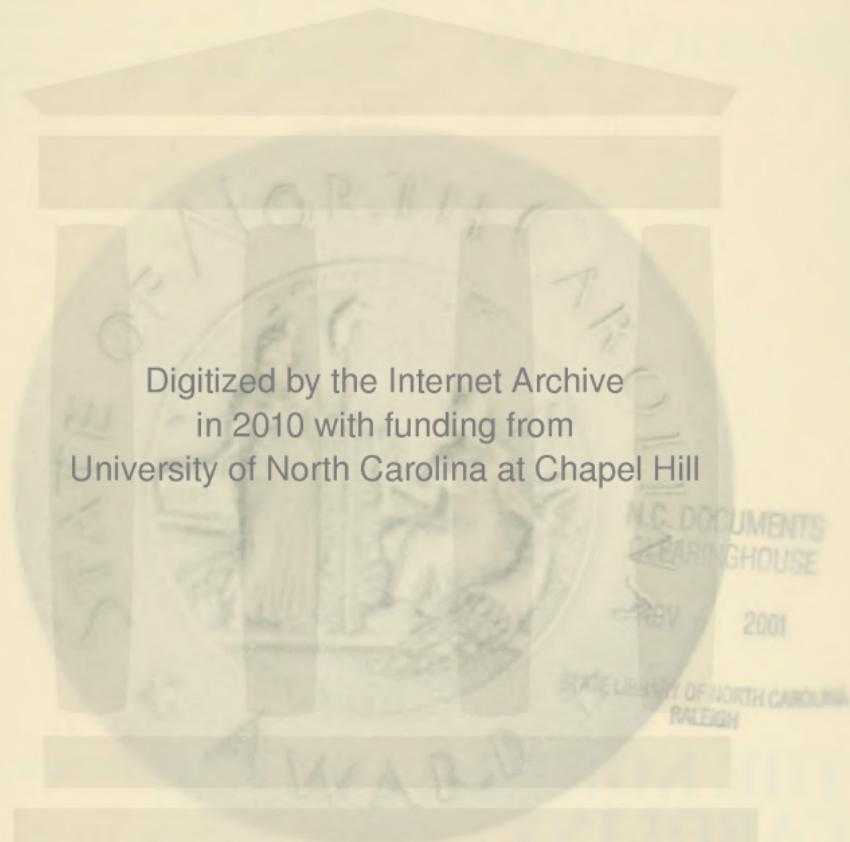
THE NORTH CAROLINA AWARDS



2001

THE AWARD

The North Carolina Awards were instituted by the 1971 General Assembly, which acted on the idea of the late Mr. Robert Lee Humber of Greenville, then State Senator from Pitt County. The purpose of the Awards, as set forth in the statutes, is to recognize "notable accomplishments by North Carolina citizens in the fields of scholarship, research, fine arts and public leadership." It is the highest honor the state can bestow.



The North Carolina Award was designed by the eminent sculptor Paul Manship and was one of his last commissions before his death.

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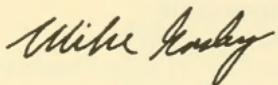
THE NORTH CAROLINA AWARDS COMMITTEE

Dr. Thomas K. Hearn, Jr., Chairman
Nick Bragg
Hal Crowther
Shirley T. Frye
Jean W. McLaughlin

The North Carolina Award is the highest honor our state can bestow. Created in 1961 by the General Assembly, the award is given yearly to men and women who have made significant contributions in science, literature, fine arts, and public service.

On behalf of all North Carolinians I congratulate the 2001 award recipients for their outstanding achievements. We in North Carolina are grateful to these outstanding citizens for their leadership, service, and talent.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Easley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Mike" on the first line and "Easley" on the second line, slightly overlapping.

38th North Carolina Awards

Dinner and Awards Presentation

Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley

November 5, 2001

Welcome

The Honorable Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Pledge of Allegiance

Captain D. R. Scheu

United States Navy, Retired

U.S.S. *North Carolina* Battleship Memorial
Wilmington, North Carolina

Invocation

Monsignor Tim O'Connor

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
Raleigh, North Carolina

Remarks

The Honorable Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Dr. Thomas K. Hearn, Jr., Chairman
North Carolina Awards Committee

Awards Presentation

The Honorable Michael F. Easley, Governor
State of North Carolina

Acknowledgements

Video Documentation Program
Department of Cultural Resources

Centerpieces provided by Sandi's Florist
Garner, North Carolina

Wine provided by Biltmore Estate Brands Group
Jerry Douglas
Asheville, North Carolina

PAST RECIPIENTS

1964

John N. Couch	Frank P. Graham	Bernice Kelly Harris
Science	Public Service	
Inglis Fletcher	Paul Green	Luther H. Hodges
Literature	Literature	Public Service
John Motley Morehead	Gerald W. Johnson	A. G. Odell, Jr.
Public Service	Literature	Fine Arts
Clarence Poe	Hunter Johnson	Oscar K. Rice
Public Service	Fine Arts	Science
Francis Speight	Frederick A. Wolf	
Fine Arts	Science	

1965

John N. Couch	Frank P. Graham	Bernice Kelly Harris
Science	Public Service	
Inglis Fletcher	Paul Green	Luther H. Hodges
Literature	Literature	Public Service
John Motley Morehead	Gerald W. Johnson	A. G. Odell, Jr.
Public Service	Literature	Fine Arts
Clarence Poe	Hunter Johnson	Oscar K. Rice
Public Service	Fine Arts	Science
Francis Speight	Frederick A. Wolf	
Fine Arts	Science	

1966

John N. Couch	Frank P. Graham	Bernice Kelly Harris
Science	Public Service	
Inglis Fletcher	Paul Green	Luther H. Hodges
Literature	Literature	Public Service
John Motley Morehead	Gerald W. Johnson	A. G. Odell, Jr.
Public Service	Literature	Fine Arts
Clarence Poe	Hunter Johnson	Oscar K. Rice
Public Service	Fine Arts	Science
Francis Speight	Frederick A. Wolf	
Fine Arts	Science	

1967

Albert Coates	Robert Lee Humber	Kenneth M. Brinkhous
Public Service	Science	
Jonathan Daniels	Hobson Pittman	May Gordon Latham
Literature	Fine Arts	Kellenberger
Carl W. Gottschalk	Vermont C. Royster	Public Service
Science	Literature	Ovid Williams Pierce
Benjamin F. Swalin	Charles Phillips Russell	Literature
Fine Arts	Literature	Charles W. Stanford, Jr.
Hiram Houston Merritt	Stanley G. Stephens	Fine Arts
Science	Science	

1968

Albert Coates	Robert Lee Humber	Kenneth M. Brinkhous
Public Service	Science	
Jonathan Daniels	Hobson Pittman	May Gordon Latham
Literature	Fine Arts	Kellenberger
Carl W. Gottschalk	Vermont C. Royster	Public Service
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Fine Arts	Literature	Charles W. Stanford, Jr.
Hiram Houston Merritt	Stanley G. Stephens	Fine Arts
Science	Science	

1970

Philip Handler	Guy Owen	Sidney Alderman Blackmer
Science	Fine Arts	
Frances Gray Patton	James H. Semans	May Gordon Latham
Literature	Fine Arts	Kellenberger
Henry C. Pearson	Mary Duke Biddle Trent	Public Service
Fine Arts	Semans	Ovid Williams Pierce
Terry Sanford	Fine Arts	Charles W. Stanford, Jr.
Public Service	Mary Duke Biddle Trent	

1971

Philip Handler	Guy Owen	Sidney Alderman Blackmer
Science	Fine Arts	
Frances Gray Patton	James H. Semans	May Gordon Latham
Literature	Fine Arts	Kellenberger
Henry C. Pearson	Mary Duke Biddle Trent	Public Service
Fine Arts	Semans	Ovid Williams Pierce
Terry Sanford	Fine Arts	Charles W. Stanford, Jr.
Public Service	Mary Duke Biddle Trent	
	Capus Waynick	
	Public Service	
	James Edwin Webb	
	Science	

1972

Philip Handler	Guy Owen	Sidney Alderman Blackmer
Science	Fine Arts	
Frances Gray Patton	James H. Semans	Edward E. Davis, Jr.
Literature	Fine Arts	Science
Henry C. Pearson	Mary Duke Biddle Trent	John Ehle
Fine Arts	Semans	Literature
Terry Sanford	Fine Arts	William Dallas Herring
Public Service	Mary Duke Biddle Trent	Public Service
	Capus Waynick	Harold Hotelling
	Public Service	Science
	James Edwin Webb	
	Science	

1973

Helen Smith Bevington	William C. Fields	Doris W. Betts
Literature	Fine Arts	
Ellis Brevier Cowling	Thad G. Stem, Jr.	Literature
Science	Literature	John L. Etchells
Burke Davis	Ellen Black Winston	Science
Literature	Public Service	
Sam J. Ervin	James B. Wyngaarden	William C. Friday
Public Service	Science	Public Service
Kenneth Ness		Robert Ward
Fine Arts		Fine Arts

1974

Helen Smith Bevington	William C. Fields	Doris W. Betts
Literature	Fine Arts	
Ellis Brevier Cowling	Thad G. Stem, Jr.	Literature
Science	Literature	John L. Etchells
Burke Davis	Ellen Black Winston	Science
Literature	Public Service	
Sam J. Ervin	James B. Wyngaarden	William C. Friday
Public Service	Science	Public Service
Kenneth Ness		Robert Ward
Fine Arts		Fine Arts

1975

Helen Smith Bevington	William C. Fields	Doris W. Betts
Literature	Fine Arts	
Ellis Brevier Cowling	Thad G. Stem, Jr.	Literature
Science	Literature	John L. Etchells
Burke Davis	Ellen Black Winston	Science
Literature	Public Service	
Sam J. Ervin	James B. Wyngaarden	William C. Friday
Public Service	Science	Public Service
Kenneth Ness		Robert Ward
Fine Arts		Fine Arts

1976

Romare Bearden	
Fine Arts	
C. Clark Cockerham	
Science	
Foster Fitz-Simons	
Fine Arts	
Juanita M. Kreps	
Public Service	
Richard Walser	
Literature	

1977

Elizabeth Duncan Koontz	
Public Service	
Reginald Glennis Mitchiner	
Science	
Reynolds Price	
Literature	
Joseph Curtis Sloane	
Fine Arts	
Jonathan Williams	
Fine Arts	

1978

Robert Robey Garvey, Jr.	
Public Service	
Henry L. Kamphoefner	
Fine Arts	
David Coston Sabiston, Jr.	
Science	
Harriet L. Tynes	
Public Service	
Manly Wade Wellman	
Literature	

1982

Selma Hortense Burke	
Fine Arts	
Nancy Winbon Chase	
Public Service	
Floyd W. Denny, Jr.	
Science	
Willie Snow Ethridge	
Literature	
R. Phillip Hanes, Jr.	
Fine Arts	

1983

Heather Ross Miller	
Literature	
Frank Guthrie	
Science	
Mary Dalton	
Fine Arts	
Harry Dalton	
Fine Arts	
Hugh Morton	
Public Service	

1984

George Watts Hill	
Public Service	
Robert L. Hill	
Science	
Maud Gatewood	
Fine Arts	
Lee Smith	
Literature	
Joseph Mitchell	
Literature	
Andy Griffith	
Fine Arts	

1988

Edith London	
Fine Arts	
Pedro Cuatrecasas	
Science	
Charles Edward Eaton	
Literature	
William S. Lee	
Public Service	
David Brinkley	
Public Service	

1989

Loonis McGlohon	
Fine Arts	
Gertrude B. Elion	
Science	
Ronald Bayes	
Literature	
Maxine M. Swalin	
Public Service	
Roy Park	
Public Service	

1990

Leon Rooke	
Literature	
H. Keith H. Brodie	
Science	
Bob Timberlake	
Fine Arts	
Dean Wallace Colvard	
Public Service	
Frank H. Kenan	
Public Service	

1994

Sarah Blakeslee	
Fine Arts	
Richard Jenrette	
Public Service	
Elizabeth Spencer	
Literature	
Marshall Edgell	
Science	
Freda Nicholson	
Public Service	

1995

Banks C. Talley, Jr.	
Public Service	
John S. Mayo	
Science	
John Biggers	
Fine Arts	
Clyde Hutchison III	
Science	
James Applewhite	
Literature	
Kenneth Noland	
Fine Arts	

1996

Robert W. Scott	
Public Service	
Martha Clampitt McKay	
Public Service	
John L. Sanders	
Public Service	
Betty Adcock	
Literature	
Joseph S. Pagano	
Science	
Joanne M. Bath	
Fine Arts	

1979

Archie K. Davis
Public Service

John D. deButts
Public Service

Harry Golden
Literature

Walter Gordy
Science

Sam Ragan
Fine Arts

1985

J. Gordon Hanes, Jr.
Public Service

Wilma Dykeman
Literature

Irwin Fridovich
Science

Claude F. Howell
Fine Arts

1980

Fred Chappell
Literature

George H. Hitchings
Science

Robert Lindgren
Fine Arts

Dan K. Moore
Public Service

Jeanelle C. Moore
Public Service

1986

Joseph M. Bryan
Public Service

Billy Graham
Public Service

A. R. Ammons
Literature

Ernest L. Eliel
Science

Doc Watson
Fine Arts

1981

Adeline McCall
Fine Arts

Glen Rounds
Literature

Ralph H. Scott
Public Service

Vivian T. Stannett
Science

Tom Wicker
Literature

1987

John T. Caldwell
Public Service

Charles Kuralt
Public Service

Maya Angelou
Literature

Robert J. Lefkowitz
Science

Harvey K. Littleton
Fine Arts

1991

William J. Brown
Fine Arts

Mary Ellen Jones
Science

Robert R. Morgan
Literature

Jesse H. Meredith
Public Service

Elizabeth H. Dole
Public Service

1997

Thomas S. Kenan III
Public Service

M. Mellanay Delhom
Fine Arts

Robert Ian Bruck
Science

Elna B. Spaulding
Public Service

Clyde Edgerton
Literature

1992

Louis D. Rubin, Jr.
Literature

John M. J. Madey
Science

William McWhorter Cochrane
Public Service

Maxwell R. Thurman
Public Service

Charles R. "Chuck" Davis
Fine Arts

1998

L. Richardson Preyer
Public Service

Emily Harris Preyer
Public Service

Kaye Gibbons
Literature

Robert W. Gray
Fine Arts

Martin Rodbell
Science

Marvin Saltzman
Fine Arts

James V. Taylor
Fine Arts

1993

John Hope Franklin
Literature

Oliver Smithies
Science

Joe Cox
Fine Arts

Eric Schopler
Public Service

Billy Taylor
Fine Arts

1999

Frank Arthur Daniels, Jr.
Public Service

Julia Jones Daniels
Public Service

Knut Schmidt-Nielsen
Science

Robert G. Parr
Science

Allan Gurganus
Literature

Jill McCorkle
Literature

Frank L. Horton
Fine Arts

Herb Jackson
Fine Arts

General Henry H. Shelton
Public Service

2000

Henry Bowers

Public Service

Harlan E. Boyles

Public Service

S. Tucker Cooke

Fine Arts

William T. Fletcher

Science

James F. Goodman

Public Service

William S. Powell

Literature

**2001
NORTH CAROLINA AWARD
RECIPIENTS**

William Wallace Finlator once described his career as a struggle to "redeem the times with a vigorous and creative application of the radical aspects of the Bible, Baptist heritage, and the Bill of Rights." For this struggle he receives the 2001 North Carolina Award for Public Service.

Born in Louisburg, North Carolina, in 1913, Finlator grew up in Raleigh. He holds a bachelor's degree from Wake Forest College (now University) and a master's of theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Ordained in 1935, he first served as a pastor in Pittsboro where he began writing for the Baptist state periodical. Early in his career he found common ground with African American colleagues, and by the 1950s had begun to openly support desegregation.

In 1956 Finlator became pastor of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, where for twenty-six years his sermons reflected a growing awareness of how God stands by "the poor and deprived and underprivileged." Consistent with this understanding, he became involved in movements on behalf of labor, peace, and civil rights. He marched with Coretta Scott King and chaired the North Carolina Advisory Committee on Civil Rights; he participated in seminars and conferences on social issues at the behest of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. Finlator protested American entanglement in the Vietnam War and spoke eloquently on behalf of nuclear disarmament. Consistent with these commitments, he became a founding member of the North Carolina chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union as well as of North Carolinians Against the Death Penalty. He has testified before the North Carolina General Assembly on behalf of laborers and prisoners awaiting execution. He has aptly been described as "North Carolina's unofficial conscience."

He has played the same role within the church. He encouraged Baptists, inside and out of Pullen Memorial Church, to oppose capital punishment and the Vietnam War, to work for women's rights, to defend the environment, and to adhere to the historic Baptist commitment to separation of church and state. He created controversy within his church by requesting federal help from President Jimmy Carter in desegregating the state university system. As a result, the Pullen Memorial congregation called for his early retirement from their pulpit in 1982; Finlator, however, remained outspoken. This his neighbors, colleagues, friends, opponents, and fellow believers found characteristic; his fellow believers also understand he has always been a supportive, understanding, caring, and effective Christian pastor.

He has received numerous awards – from the American Civil Liberties Union, the North Carolina Humanities Council, Wake Forest University, the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1983 the Federal Bureau of Investigation even released his file. At present he remains a voice for the weak, downtrodden, and oppressed while challenging those around him to better our state, nation, and world. "You have," he said to fellow Tar Heels, "let me become me, my destiny, my calling..." For the future he still hopes "all people might work out their own salvation, the weak growing strong and the strong growing great."

Finlator lives with his wife, Mary Lib, in Raleigh. They have one son, two daughters, and eight grandchildren.

PUBLIC SERVICE W.W. Finlator



Composing, recording, producing, appearing on stage, radio and television, Arthur Smith pioneered new ways to bring music and people together. One of the South's first true celebrities of the electronic age, Smith was country long before it was cool. For a career spanning over sixty years as an entertainer and entrepreneur, Arthur Smith receives the 2001 North Carolina Award for Fine Arts.

A Tar Heel by choice, Arthur Smith was born in Kershaw, South Carolina. "I knew what I wanted to do by the time I was fourteen years old," he has said. "I wanted to marry a wonderful woman, have children, write music, and entertain people." He passed up an appointment to the United States Naval Academy to pursue a career in music. In 1941 he began hosting live radio shows on WSPA in Spartanburg, South Carolina, moving to Charlotte and WBT in 1943. His first hit record "Guitar Boogie," written and recorded in 1945, remains the all-time best-selling guitar instrumental.

With his band, the Carolina Crackerjacks, Smith created one of the first variety shows in television and the first nationally syndicated country music program. For thirty-two years, entertainers of all kinds, sports stars, and politicians journeyed to Charlotte to appear on *The Arthur Smith Show* on WBTV, making Smith's wholesome brand of entertainment welcome in households throughout the South. For a decade, he also hosted an early morning television show, *Carolina Calling*.

In 1957 Smith opened a recording studio in North Carolina and there produced records by artists such as Johnny Cash, James Brown, Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs, Pat Boone, and the Statler Brothers. He also produced a radio series; his own syndicated radio show, *Top of the Morning*, ran for 30 years.

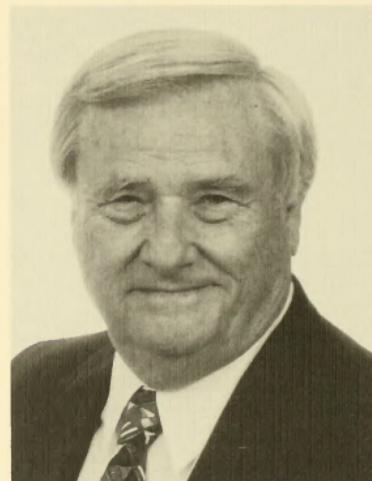
Arthur Smith is the composer of more than 500 gospel and country songs, which have been recorded by artists such as George Beverly Shea, Barbara Mandrell, the Gatlin Brothers, and Randy Travis. Perhaps his best known song—"Feuding Banjos"—was written and recorded in 1955. Under the title "Dueling Banjos," it became the theme song for the movie *Deliverance* and was named Broadcast Music Inc.'s Song of the Year in 1973. Smith composed the music for twelve major motion pictures and recorded over 100 albums for numerous record labels.

Almost as great as his love of music is his passion for fishing. For twenty years he sponsored a fishing tournament. To help preserve the fish and their habitats, he established a marine conservation endowment to benefit the tournament. For twelve years Smith hosted a television series about fishing.

Smith has served as a volunteer or on the board of many institutions such as the North Carolina School of the Arts, the North Carolina Marine Science Council, Gardner-Webb University, the Charlotte Symphony, Easter Seals, the United Way, and the March of Dimes. His awards and honors include the North Carolina Folk Heritage Award, Broadcast Music, Inc. Special Citation of Achievement, American Advertising Federation Silver Medal Award, and an honorary doctorate from the former Steed College of Johnson City, Tennessee.

Arthur Smith lives with his wife Dorothy in Charlotte. They have three children, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

FINE ARTS Arthur Smith



In the first rank of contemporary poets, Kathryn Stripling Byer has received regional and national recognition for personifying the spirit of North Carolina, focusing often on the lives of Appalachian women. Giving voice to these women, her poems resonate with readers long after the words are read. It is impossible to survey the work of North Carolina poets without including her striking, even haunting, poetry. For her celebration of this state's human spirit and her contributions to poetry, Kathryn Stripling Byer receives the 2001 North Carolina Award in Literature.

Born and raised in southwest Georgia, where her family farmed for several generations, Kay Byer has lived most of her adult life in Cullowhee, near her grandmother's home in the Blue Ridge Mountains. A graduate of Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, Byer earned her Master of Fine Arts from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Over the years she has studied with or been influenced by such notable poets and writers as James Applewhite, Fred Chappell, Robert Watson, Allen Tate, and Lee Smith.

Kay Byer has written three books of poetry including *Black Shawl*; *Wildwood Flower*, which won the 1992 Thomas Wolfe Award and the Lamont Prize from the Academy of American Poets; and her first volume, *The Girl in the Midst of the Harvest*. Another book, *Catching Light*, is due out next spring. Byer's writing has also been anthologized, most recently in *Word and Witness: 100 Years of North Carolina Poetry*.

Billy Collins, the U.S.'s eleventh poet laureate, recently selected Byer's *Black Shawl* for the Brockman-Campbell Book Award, bestowed annually for the best book of poems published by a North Carolinian. This collection also received the Roanoke-Chowan Award from the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association.

Collins called *Black Shawl* "... a spirited and spirit-haunted book of poems that interlaces folklore and cultural mythology with the myths of the self. Byer sings in her own clear and distinctive voice, but she also speaks in many of these poems through the persona of the ancient woman, a kind of Crazy Jane of Appalachia."

Kathryn Byer's poetry has appeared in *Arts Journal*, *Carolina Quarterly*, *Georgia Review*, *Hudson Review*, *Iowa Review*, *Nimrod*, *Poetry*, and *Southern Review*. Her essays have appeared in *Bloodroot: Reflections on Place by Appalachian Women Writers*, *Dream Garden: The Poetic Vision of Fred Chappell*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Shenandoah*. Byer's work has received the Anne Sexton Poetry Prize; she is the recipient of fellowships from both the National Endowment for the Arts and the North Carolina Arts Council.

Committed to teaching students about her craft, Byer served until recently as poet-in-residence at Western Carolina University at Cullowhee. She also has served as writer-in-residence at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory and at UNC-Greensboro's MFA writing program. Byer has led other writing classes at the John C. Campbell Folk School, the Hindman Settlement School, and the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

Kathryn Byer lives in Cullowhee with her husband, James, who heads the English department at Western Carolina University. They have one daughter, Corinna Lynette, a University of Chicago graduate, who also has published poetry and won awards for her writing.

LITERATURE Kathryn Stripling Byer



Royce W. Murray characterizes the research philosophy that has guided his forty-year career in chemistry this way: "One should always be on the lookout for something that is more intriguing and original and less understood than what you are currently doing." His efforts have affected scientific areas as diverse as chemical sensors, molecular electronics, electrochemistry, and nanoscience. For his wide-ranging research, prolific publication, and work as an educator and editor, Royce W. Murray receives the 2001 North Carolina Award for Science.

Royce W. Murray was born in Birmingham, Alabama, where his father was an electrical expert at Alabama Power Company. Murray grew up surrounded by the motors, switches, microscopes, and machine tools of his father's home workshop. He went on to earn a chemistry degree from Birmingham Southern College and a doctorate from Northwestern University, finishing in the latter in only three years, at the age of twenty-three.

In 1960 he came to Chapel Hill as an instructor in chemistry at the University of North Carolina. Today he is a Kenan Professor of Chemistry and a professor of applied and materials science.

Over the years Murray has researched new ways to observe and manipulate chemical phenomena. His development of chemically modified electrodes has applications in creating chemical sensors and in solar energy conversion. Since the early 1980s Murray and his students have researched the electrochemistry of redox polymer films. His lab has also developed methods of measuring dynamic properties of semi-solid materials, such as electron transfer rates and diffusion. Recently Murray and several colleagues at Chapel Hill announced the creation of a liquid form of DNA.

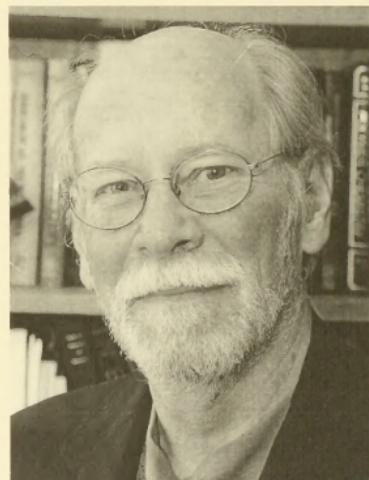
Murray has published the results of his research in more than 350 articles and four books, and has obtained three patents. Since 1991 Murray has been editor-in-chief of *Analytical Chemistry*, the leading journal in the discipline. He has reviewed research proposals for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and several international research councils.

Known as a world leader in chemical research, as well as for his wise counsel and calm demeanor, Dr. Murray is often called on to advise and consult. He has served with several national organizations, including the National Research Council, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and the American Chemical Society. Besides mentoring graduate students, he heads a task force planning the new science complex at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

An outstanding thinker and inventor widely recognized for his accomplishments, Murray has received multiple honors and awards. These include a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Fisher Award from the American Chemical Society, and the Olin Palladium Award from the Electrochemical Society. In 1991 Murray was elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences; he is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His most recent honor, the Thomas Jefferson Award, commends his excellence in scholarship and his service to the University of North Carolina.

Royce W. Murray lives in Pittsboro with his wife Mirtha Umana-Murray. He has four daughters and a son.

SCIENCE Royce W. Murray



"Almost everything I write is tinged with the culture I was born in," Shelby Stephenson has said. "I try to take this landscape to the limit, to light up the local." For his work as a poet, editor, and teacher, Shelby Stephenson receives the 2001 North Carolina Award for Literature.

Shelby Stephenson was born in 1938 on the family farm known as "Paul's Hill" in Johnston County. As a boy he learned to play the guitar and developed a lifelong love of music. His poetry draws inspiration from his childhood memories of rural North Carolina, where the fields were plowed with mules and generations of his forebears lay in the cemetery across the road.

"My early teachers were the thirty-five foxhounds my father hunted. The trees, streams, fields, the world of my childhood—all that folklore—those are my subjects," he says. In the classroom Stephenson challenges his students to find the universal through the local, to further explore their own experience of self and place.

Employed as a busboy, janitor, and disc jockey, Stephenson worked his way through the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, eventually earning a bachelor's in English and then studying law. On his way to obtaining a master's from the University of Pittsburgh and a doctorate at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, he also worked as a television announcer, salesman, and right-of-way agent.

After chairing the English department at Campbell College, in 1978 Stephenson joined the faculty of what is today the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to teach literature and creative writing. His students describe him as "humble, caring, inspirational, and exciting to be around."

In 1979 he became editor of the literary annual *Pembroke Magazine* and published his first collection of poetry, *Middle Creek Poems*, which won the Zoë Kincaid Brockman Memorial Award. He has published seven additional poetry collections with another scheduled to appear in 2002. His poetry is included in numerous anthologies and has appeared in magazines such as *Hudson Review*, *Poetry Now*, and *Southern Poetry Review*.

Called "the Johnny Appleseed of North Carolina letters" by many, Stephenson also has nurtured the literary life of North Carolina through his service to nearly every writing organization in the state. He has been president of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, the North Carolina Writers' Conference, the North Carolina Folklore Society, and the North Carolina Writers' Network. As a board member or officer, he has been part of the Weymouth Lecture Series, the Paul Green Foundation, and the North Carolina Poetry Society. He has taught writing workshops at universities, high schools, and conferences across the state. His critical essays have appeared in such journals and books as the *Thomas Wolfe Review*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* and *North Carolina Literary Review*.

Among his many awards are the Sam Ragan Award for contributions to the arts presented by St. Andrews Presbyterian College, the R. Hunt Parker Memorial Award for "significant lifetime contributions to the literary heritage of North Carolina," and the 2001 UNC Board of Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence.

Shelby Stephenson lives with his wife Linda on the family farm in Benson. The couple has two children.

LITERATURE Shelby Stephenson



As one looks at the smiling faces of children at the new Jordan Child and Family Enrichment Center in Raleigh, you can sense the nurturing environment fostered there. This center is the latest example of the generosity and progressive efforts for children made by our former lieutenant governor and his family. For his devotion to North Carolina, exemplified by his deep involvement in business and public service, Robert B. Jordan III receives the 2001 North Carolina Award in Public Service.

Bob Jordan was born in 1932 in the small Montgomery County town of Mount Gilead where he and his wife Sarah live today. Growing up in a family that valued civic involvement, Jordan from a young age learned the importance of public service. For inspiration he looked to his father, a founder of Jordan Lumber, the family business. His early life experiences convinced young Bob Jordan that public service was a noble undertaking.

In 1954 Jordan graduated with honors from North Carolina State University (then College) with a Bachelor of Science in forestry; he then served for two years in the U.S. Army. A month after returning home, Jordan secured a spot on the town council. In 1958 he married Sarah Cole, a Raeford schoolteacher. Together they immersed themselves in business, community, and public life.

In 1961 Bob Jordan became one of the youngest members of the UNC Board of Trustees, where for ten years he was instrumental in expanding the system from three to six universities and forming the Board of Governors and the sixteen-campus system. An original member of the Board of Governors, he chaired the committee that studied the establishment of a medical school at East Carolina University.

In 1976 Jordan was elected to the North Carolina Senate, where he served four consecutive terms and led initiatives promoting sound fiscal policy, improving education, and championing children's issues. From 1985 to 1989, Jordan served as lieutenant governor. Using the strength of this office, he led efforts to improve economic and educational opportunities for children and adults. These included the Basic Education Program, a blueprint for providing equal access to quality education. He promoted the creation of the Recreational and Natural Heritage Trust Fund, to fund the purchase and preservation of land for future generations.

In partnership with his brother Jack and his son, Robert Jordan is now president of Jordan Lumber and Supply Inc. The Mount Gilead business is a national industry leader and has grown from thirteen employees in 1957 to one providing more than 300 jobs today. Bob Jordan's service to the state has been recognized with an honorary doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the Watauga Award, NCSU's highest nonacademic honor. In March 2000 Bob and Sarah Jordan received the national United Methodist Association's "Outstanding Philanthropists" Award.

The Jordan family's giving spirit continues to affect the lives of North Carolinians, particularly those who most need that help. The family recently provided the lead donation for the new Jordan Center at the Methodist Home for Children in Raleigh; the center is a model of quality childcare for children from all walks of life. Bob and Sarah themselves have three children and ten grandchildren.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Robert B. Jordan, III



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